

## **Writing Elegant Essays (9th-10th grades)**

This is a one-semester course that is offered twice a year.

Day and Time: Thursdays - 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

Fall semester: Sept. 6, 2018 - December 13, 2018

Spring semester: January 10, 2019 - May 16, 2019

Instructor: Renee Metcalf

### Course Description:

We read to understand others, but we write so that others can understand us. In this course, students learn to compose descriptions, expositions and persuasive papers that illustrate or prove a particular theme. Students learn to generate and organize information. Writing from a prompt provides ample opportunity to put organizational skills into practice. Students learn how to develop a strong thesis followed by supporting examples. Learn various approaches to writing engaging introductions and conclusions. Acquire the skill of seamlessly connecting ideas so that writing is sensible and enjoyable for others to read. In this class, participants prepare for the essay test and other high-stakes writing experiences.

Tuition: \$75/month OR \$270/semester

### Texts:

[\*The Elegant Essay\* \(student book\) 3rd edition, 2011 by Lesha Myers](#)

[Student Resource Packet](#) (available as a free download with purchase of student book)

### Goals and Objectives:

- o Use pre-writing techniques to organize information before writing.
- o Take notes and write outlines.
- o Use formal, academic language.
- o Construct clear and focused thesis statements.
- o Write basic 5-paragraph descriptive and persuasive essays.
- o Learn when to employ 8 different ways to support claims.
- o Create connectedness with the skillful use of transitions.
- o Create a properly formatted Works Cited page in MLA style.
- o Read and respond in writing to a variety of short literature.
- o Try out different techniques in crafting introductions and conclusions.
- o Prepare for the SAT and other timed writing situations from a prompt.